REPORT NO. 77-3-25

FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT UNIT
U.S. FOREST SERVICE
DORAVILLE, GEORGIA

REPORT OF AERIAL DETECTION SURVEY

LAND OWNERSHIP OR SURVEY AREA: Tombigbee Ranger District, Ackerman, Trace, Yalobusha Units

STATE: **Mississippi**

AREA WITHIN SURVEY BOUNDARY: 128,000 acres DATE: 5/17-20/77

PERCENT COVERAGE: 100% AIRCRAFT: Cessna 182 CREW: C. W. Dull
R. F. Bassett
P. A. Mistretta

SURVEY OBJECTIVES: To re-evaluate the status of southern pine beetle activity on the Tombigbee Ranger District of the Tombigbee and Holly Springs National Forests. A biological evaluation conducted in February revealed the potential for southern pine beetle population increase. It also showed heavy beetle mortality due to cold winter weather. Therefore, another evaluation was made to determine the status of the over-wintering southern pine beetle population and to obtain current data for planning a suppression project.

SURVEY RESULTS

A total of 81 spots of red and fading pines was observed with an estimated 400 trees on all three units. Spots ranged in size from single trees to fifty trees. The locations of these infestations are shown on the enclosed maps.

Three spots were examined on the Ackerman Unit to check for green infested trees. One spot contained active southern pine beetle adults and brood in green trees. This area may have been predisposed to attack due to flooding and injury caused by beaver activity. Approximately fifteen green trees within the same area were actively infested with black turpentine beetles. Other spots visited contained no recently infested trees and previously attacked trees were no longer infested.

It appears that southern pine beetle activity on the Tombigbee Ranger District has markedly decreased. A thirty percent decrease in the total number of spots detected and a ninety percent decrease in the estimated number of red and fading pine trees were observed compared to the estimate based on the January aerial survey.

A high incidence of small spots of suspect red and fading pine trees was observed throughout the three units. The largest spots detected during the previous survey on the Trace Unit near Concord Church (SW corner of Unit) appeared inactive.

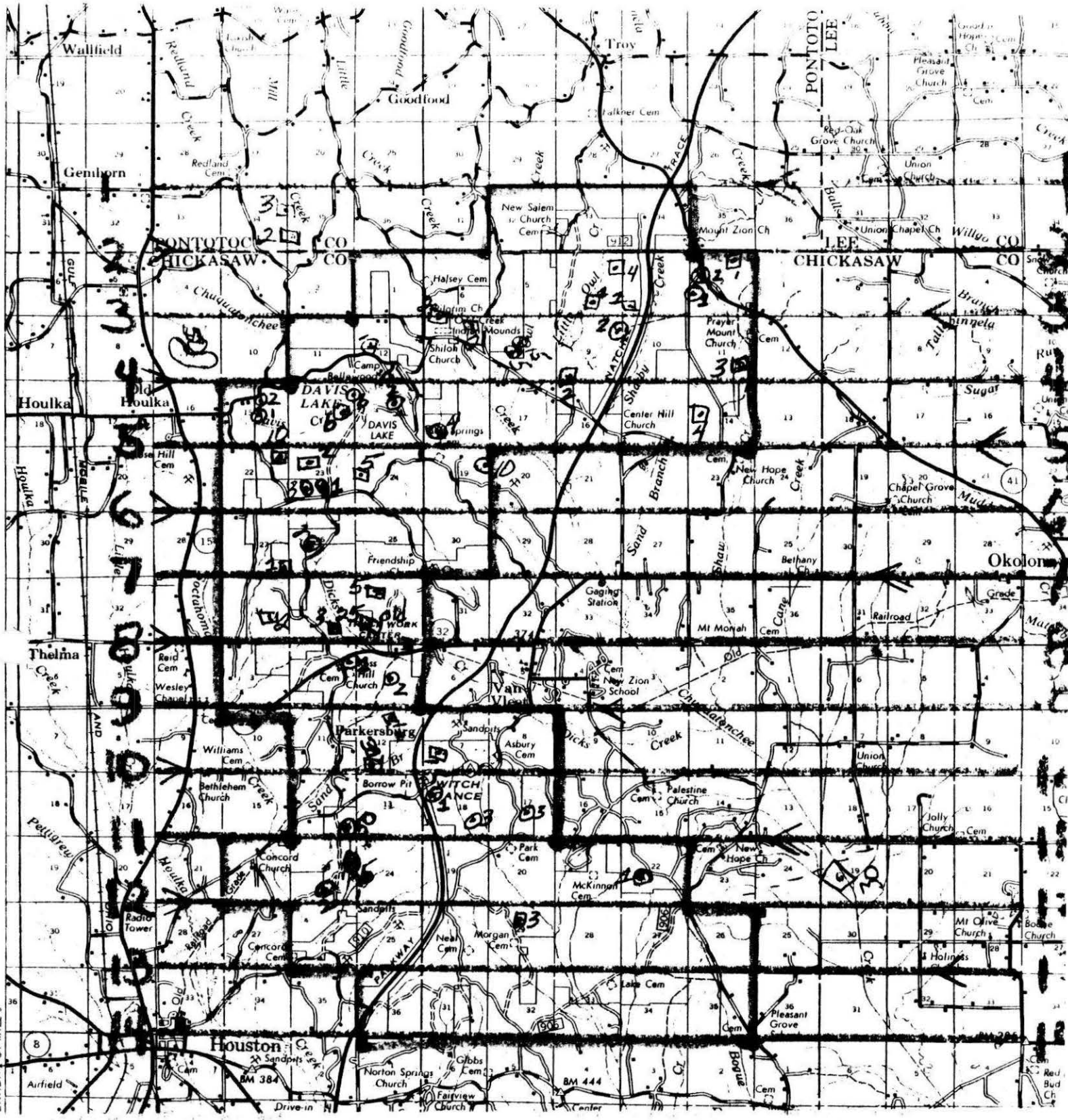
CONCLUSIONS

The results of this survey indicate that southern pine beetle activity is at a much lower level than observed during the survey conducted in January. The previous survey was an indication of the southern pine beetle activity prior to the onset of extremely cold weather.

Although southern pine beetle activity is much reduced, the potential for an outbreak still exists. Control measures for the suppression of the southern pine beetle are outlined in the biological evaluation.

A total of 44 MBF of pine affected by southern pine beetle has already been cut and salvaged on the District.

For any additional information, Contact:
Forest Insect and Disease Management Unit
Southeastern Area, State & Private Forestry
Northgate Office Park, Room 2103
Doraville, Georgia 30340
Telephone 404-221-4796

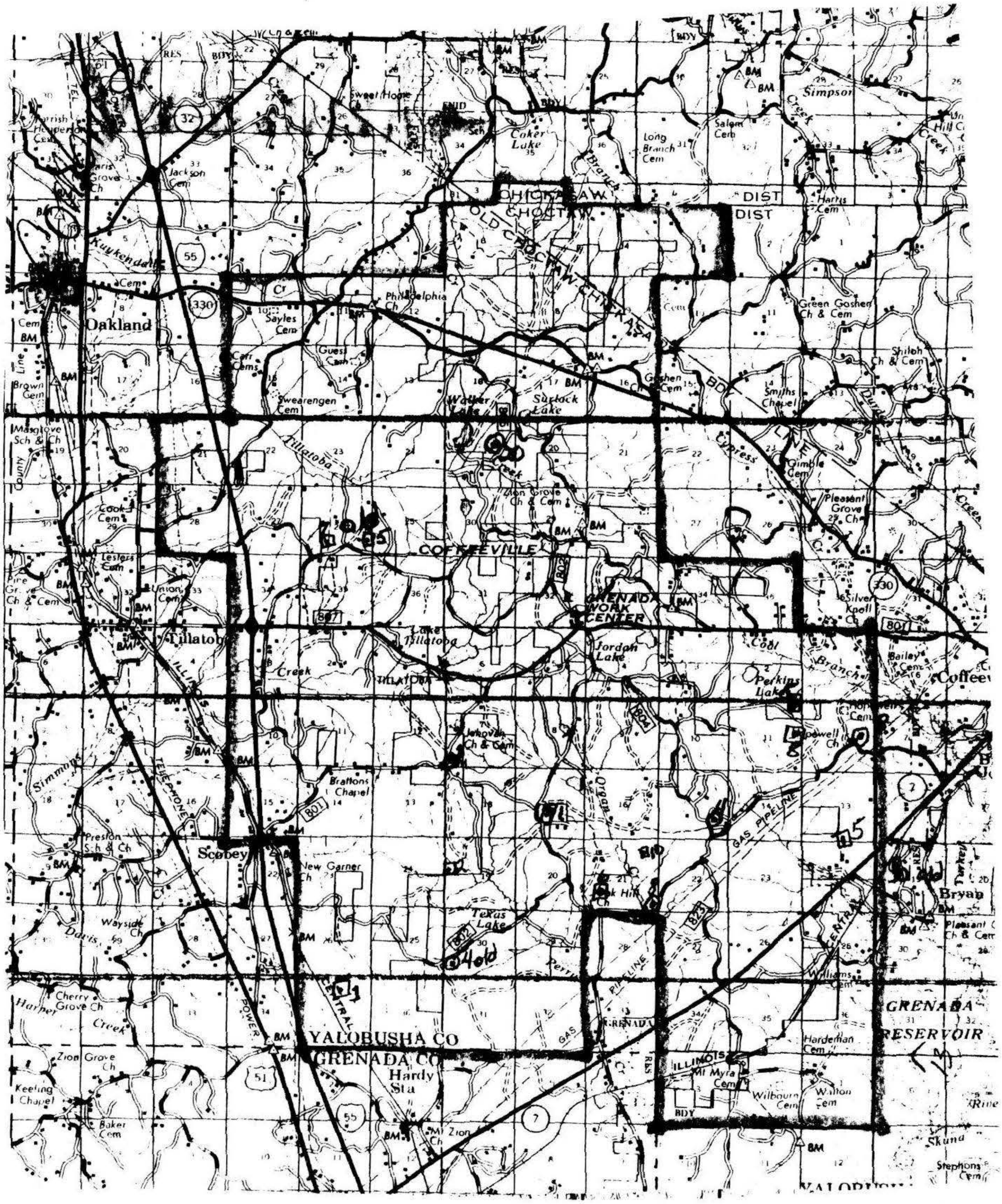


Trace Unit

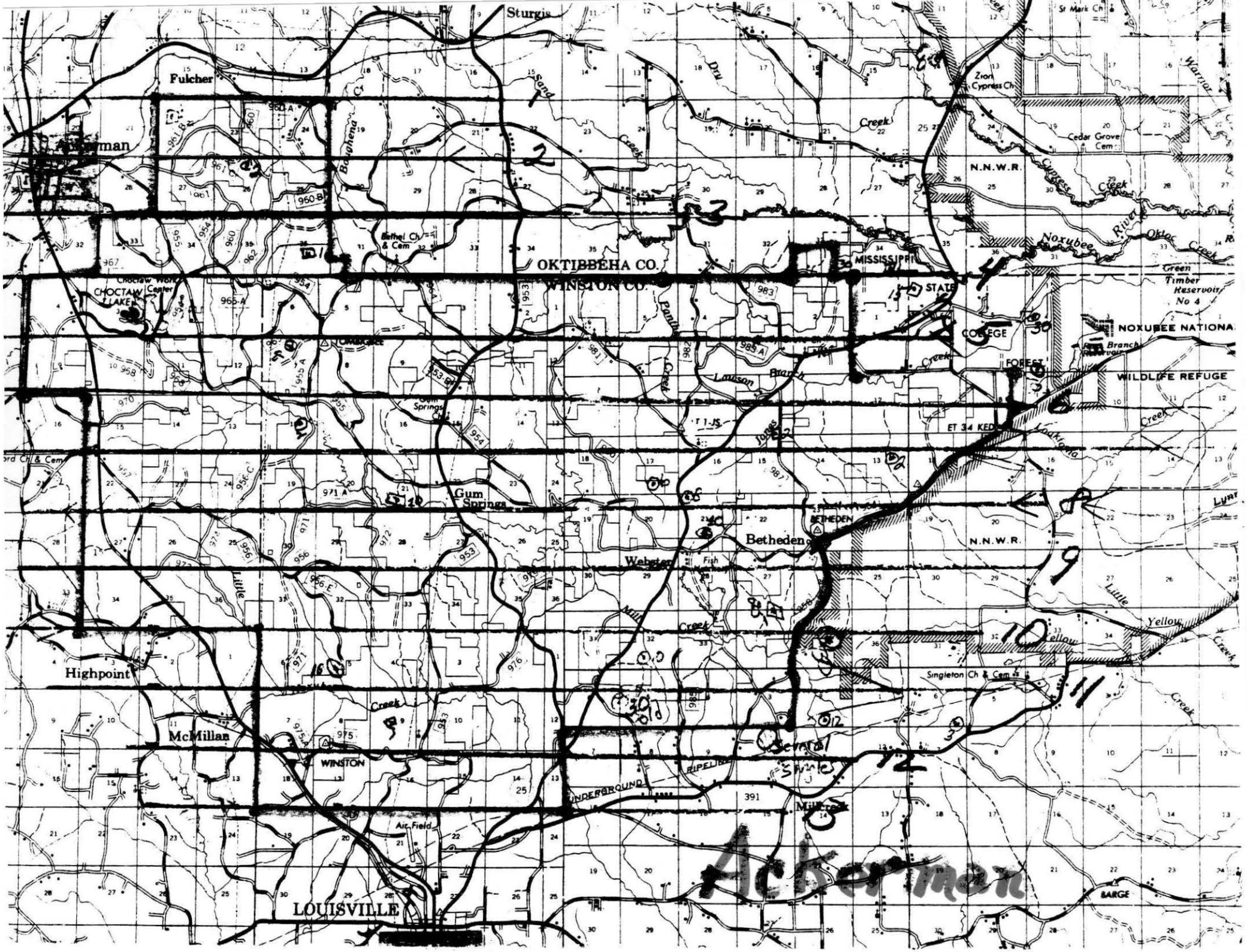
[o] Suspect Spot inaccessable and/or exact location uncertain

(•) Suspect Spot accessable and location correct

yalobusha



Oakland
Tillatoba
Scobey
COFFEEVILLE
GRENADA WORK CENTER
Jordan Lake
Lake Tillatoba
Coker Lake
Walker Lake
Surlock Lake
Texas Lake
Perkins Lake
CHICKASAW DIST
CHOCTAW DIST
OLD CHOCTAW-CHICKASAW BDY LINE
YALOBUSHA CO
GRENADA CO
GRENADA RESERVOIR
Hardy Sta
Bryan
Philadelphia Ch
Sayles Cem
Swearengen Cem
Zion Grove Ch & Cem
Jehovah Ch & Cem
Brattons Chapel
New Garner Ch
Preston Sch & Ch
Wayside Ch
Cherry Grove Ch
Zion Grove Ch
Keeling Chapel
Baker Cem
Mt Zion Ch
Mt Myra Cem
Wilbourn Cem
Walton Cem
Hardeman Cem
Green Goshen Ch & Cem
Shiloh Ch & Cem
Smiths Chapel
Gimble Cem
Pleasant Grove Ch
Silver Knoll Ch
Bailey Cem
Goshen Cem
Long Branch Cem
Salem Cem
Harris Cem
Simpson Creek
Sweet Home
Jackson Cem
Cook Cem
Lesters Cem
Union Cem
Musgrove Sch & Ch
Brown Cem
Tillatoba Creek
Cypress Creek
Cool Branch
Organ Creek
Davis Creek
Harber Creek
Simmons Creek
GAS PIPELINE
ILLINOIS CENTRAL
TELEPHONE
POWER
Stephens Cem


Sturgis
Fulcher
Ackerman
Choctaw Work Center
CHOCTAW LAKE
OKTIBBEHA CO.
WINSTON CO.
MISSISSIPPI STATE
COLLEGE
FOREST
NOXUBEE NATIONA
WILDLIFE REFUGE
N.N.W.R.
Noxubee River
Green Timber Reservoir No 4
Cedar Grove Cem
Zion Cypress Ch
St Mark Ch
Bethel Ch & Cem
Gum Springs
Gum Springs Ch
Bethesda
Webster
Fish
Highpoint
McMillan
WINSTON
Air Field
LOUISVILLE
Singleton Ch & Cem
Mill Creek
BARGE
Ackerman